

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending in the application.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,442,620 B1 (Thatte).

Thatte is directed to an object system that allegedly provides composable object execution environment extensions with an object model that defines a framework with contexts, policies, policy makers, and activators that act as event sinks. Component application objects execute on computers within an extensible object execution environment of the COM+ services that can be extended to incorporate additional behaviors that are domain-specific according to the invention. In the illustrated environment 100, the component application objects 110-118 each execute within particular domains. According to Thatte, the domains are independent aspects of the environment that contain a group of like-aspected component application objects.

Some of the domains included in the environment are a locality domain and apartments in which an object is located. According to Thatte, each apartment is a separate domain. Other aspects of the execution environment of the objects include a security role for a role-based security behavior or transaction for an automatic transaction behavior.

In Thatte, the COM+ runtime services 220 in the extensible object execution environment, maintain data structures to track object contexts for use during cross-context reference creation. The data structures include a wrapper table, a policy set table, and a registration information table per each process in the environment. The tables contain information on a process-wise basis to facilitate sharing common interface proxies for the server object across client contexts.

The present invention is directed to an object collaboration apparatus for conducting collaboration processing. The invention allows an object collaboration relationship to be easily and flexibly changed in the case where there is a description of an action, such as synchronization processing between collaboration apparatuses, related to information on an entity name of an object that transmits a message. See Specification of the Present Invention, page 4, lines 8-12. The present invention includes a message and action relationship storing part for storing contents of an action that is a reaction to a message. The message and action relationship storing part is adapted to search for a corresponding action with a message body as a search key.

Applicants respectfully submit that Thatte does not teach, "a message and action relationship storing part . . . adapted to search for a corresponding action with a message body as a search key," as recited by the language of claim 1, for example.

In contrast to the present invention, in Thatte, the wrapper table 222 tracks an association or mapping of the server objects to their respective wrapper objects. To obtain the server object's associated wrapper object 230, an "lunknown" interface 231 pointer is used as an index into the wrapper table. Similarly, to obtain a policy set, the policy set table is indexed by a client and server context pair ("CCTXT" and "SCTXT"). Thus, in Thatte, unlike the present invention, a corresponding action search is not performed with a message body as a search key. Rather, in Thatte, a pointer is used as an index into a wrapper table, which is not tantamount to or related to the above-quoted feature of the present invention. See Thatte, column 16, lines 21-32.

In light of the foregoing, claims 1-7 are patentable over the reference. If there are any formal matters remaining after the response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to the matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of the Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

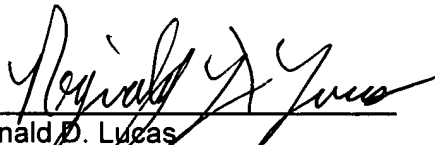
Respectfully submitted,

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11/23/05

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